

URBAN DISTRICT

of

FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

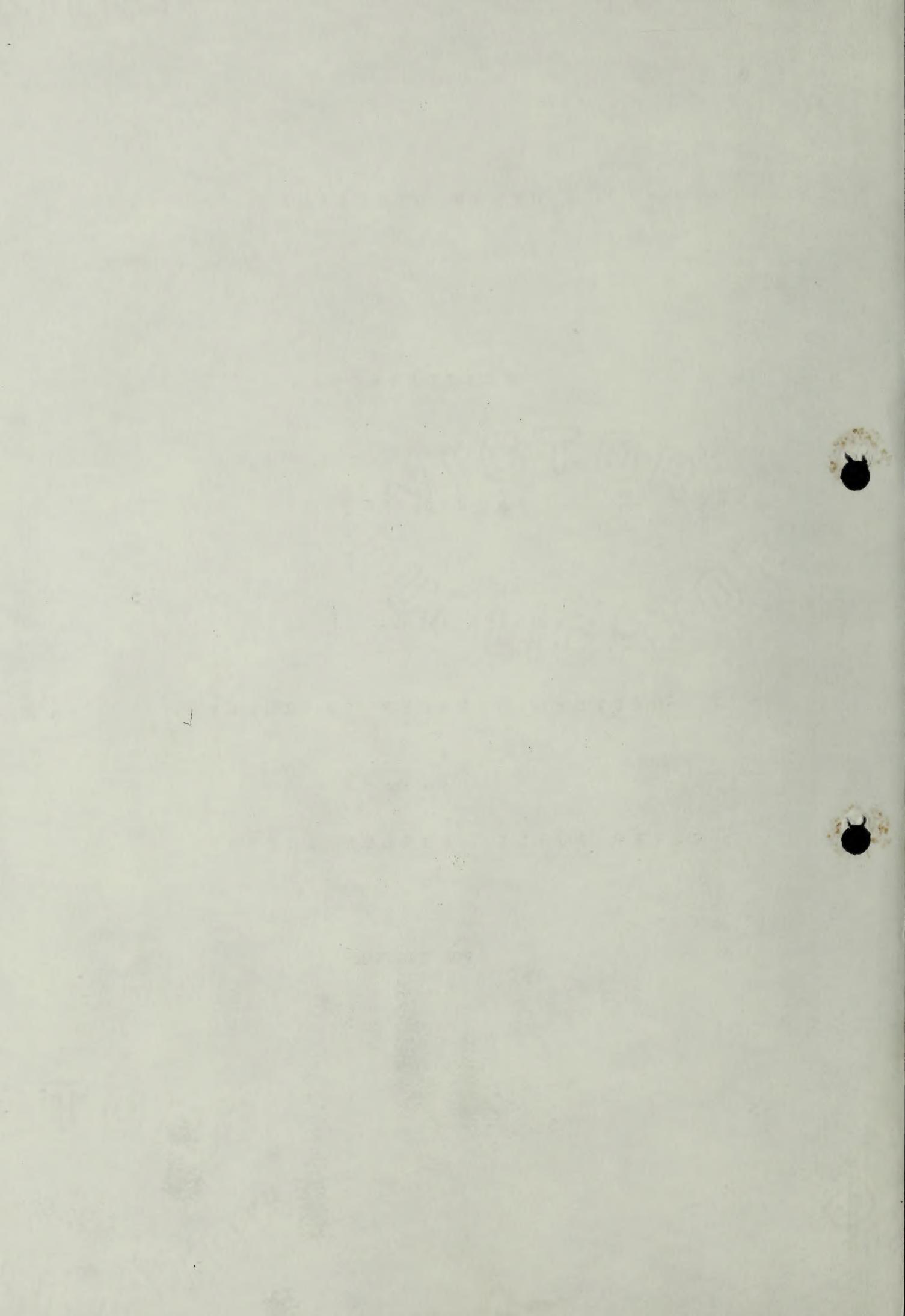
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1973



U R B A N D I S T R I C T O F F E A T H E R S T O N E

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1973

By

J. F. FRASER  
M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.



**Summary of Vital Statistics of the District  
for 1973 in comparison with 1972 -  
(Compiled from Divisional Records)**

	<u>1973</u>	<u>1972</u>
Area of District in Acres	4,425	
Population (Registrar Generals Mid Year Estimate)	15,240	15,270
No of live births	213	267
No of still births	2	4
No of infant deaths under 1 year of age	7	6
No of neonatal deaths	5	4
No of perinatal deaths	7	2
No of maternal deaths	-	-
No of deaths (all ages)	149	138
Crude Birth Rate	14.0	17.4
Adjusted Birth Rate	14.3	
Crude Death Rate	9.8	9.0
Adjusted Birth Rate	12.8	
Still birth rate	9.0	15.0
Infant Mortality Rate	33.0	22.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate	23.0	15.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate	33.0	22.0
Maternal Mortality Rate	-	-

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases

The following table shows the prevalence of Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis, during the year.

Disease	Jan/ March	April/ June	July/ Sept	Oct/ Dec	Total	Number Admitted to Hospital
Infective Jaundice	-	-	2	-	2	-
Measles	1	14	75	10	100	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning (Salmonella)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>-</b>



Tuberculosis

The number of new cases and the number of deaths occurring in 1972 are shown in the following table:-

Age Group	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-

The following table gives the position regarding Tuberculosis in Featherstone Urban District in 1972:-

Summary of Register

	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Total
Number of Cases on Register - 1st January	78	26	104
New Cases notified during year	1	2	3
Restored to Register	-	-	-
Transferred from other areas	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>107</b>
Number of Cases removed from Register during year	3	1	4
Number of cases left on Register at end of year	76	27	103

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National Assistance Acts 1948 - 51

No action needed to be taken under Section 47 of the Acts during the year.



COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

HEALTH DIVISION NO. 11

Castleford M.B.  
Pontefract M.B.  
Featherstone U.D.  
Knottingley U.D.  
Normanton U.D.  
Osgoldcross R.D.

Annual Report of the  
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

1973

by

J. F. FRASER  
M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H. D.R.C.O.G.



## 1. VITAL STATISTICS

### Populations (Registrar General's Estimate)

Castleford M.B.	37,650
Pontefract M.B.	31,340
Featherstone U.D.	15,240
Knottingley U.D.	17,080
Normanton U.D.	17,350
Osgoldcross R.D.	9,270
 Total Division II	 127,930
	  <hr/>

### Statistics Compiled from Divisional Records

#### Births

Total No. of live births notified as residing in the Division	1,756
Crude birth rate	13.7

#### Deaths

Total No. of deaths registered in the Division	1,413
Crude death rate.	11.1

#### Infant Mortality

Total No. of infant deaths occurring in the Division	46
Infant mortality rate	26.0

#### Maternal Mortality

Total No. of maternal deaths	Nil
Maternal Mortality rate	Nil

## 2. CARE OF MOTHERS & YOUNG CHILDREN

### Health Centres & Clinics

No. of Centres	10
Total No. of Children attended during the year	3,280
Total No. of attendances made	18,292

### Mothercraft & Relaxation Clinics

No of centres where clinics are held	5
No. of women who attended during the year	221
No. of attendances made	1,306



### Care of the Premature Baby

During the year 136 babies weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs or less were born in hospitals or maternity homes to mothers resident in the Division.

11 were born at home.

### 3. HEALTH VISITING

Total No. of cases visited by Health Visitors during the year	14,289
Total No. of Health Education sessions attended by Health Visitors	289
Total No. of case conferences attended by Health Visitors	1,050

The Diabetic & Geriatric liaison schemes have continued as in previous years.

### 4. HOME NURSING SERVICE

#### District Nursing

Total No. of persons treated during the year	11,209
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#### Day & Night Nursing

No. of cases receiving help	35
No. of hours involved	1,243

### 5. MIDWIFERY

Proportion of home confinements to total births	12%
No. of home confinements	202
No. of hospital confinements attended by Domiciliary Midwives	8

#### Early discharges from hospitals & maternity homes

(i) Discharged within 2 days	172
(ii) Discharged within 3 to 7 days	705
(iii) Discharged at 8 days or over	234
 Total	 <u>1,111</u>

### 6. CHIROPODY

No. of persons treated during the year	3,700
No. of treatments given during the year	14,388



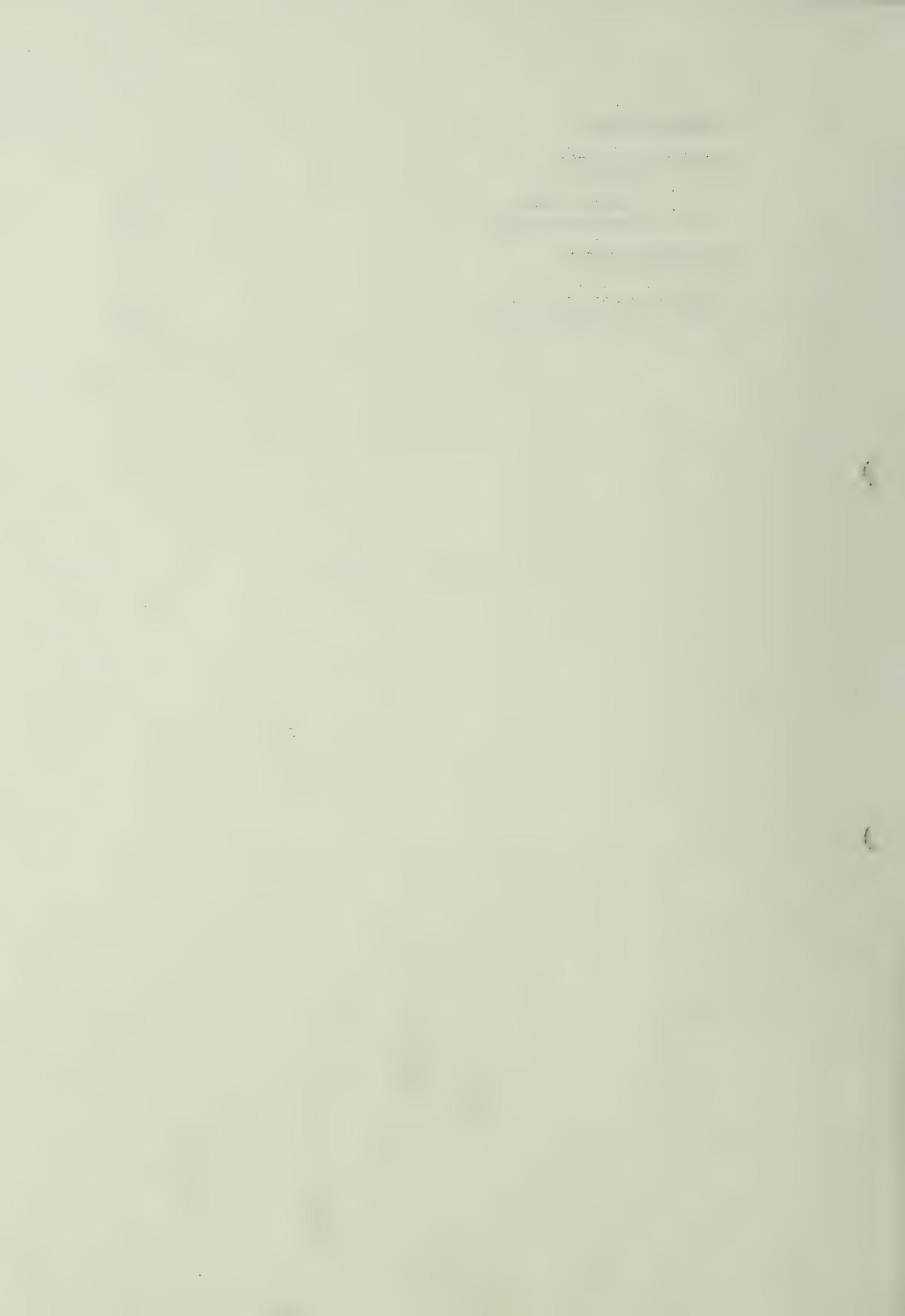
7. SCREENING TESTS

Cervical Cytology

No. of smears taken	1,063
No. of positive smears	4

Well Woman Clinic

No. of clinics held	31
No. of patients examined	356

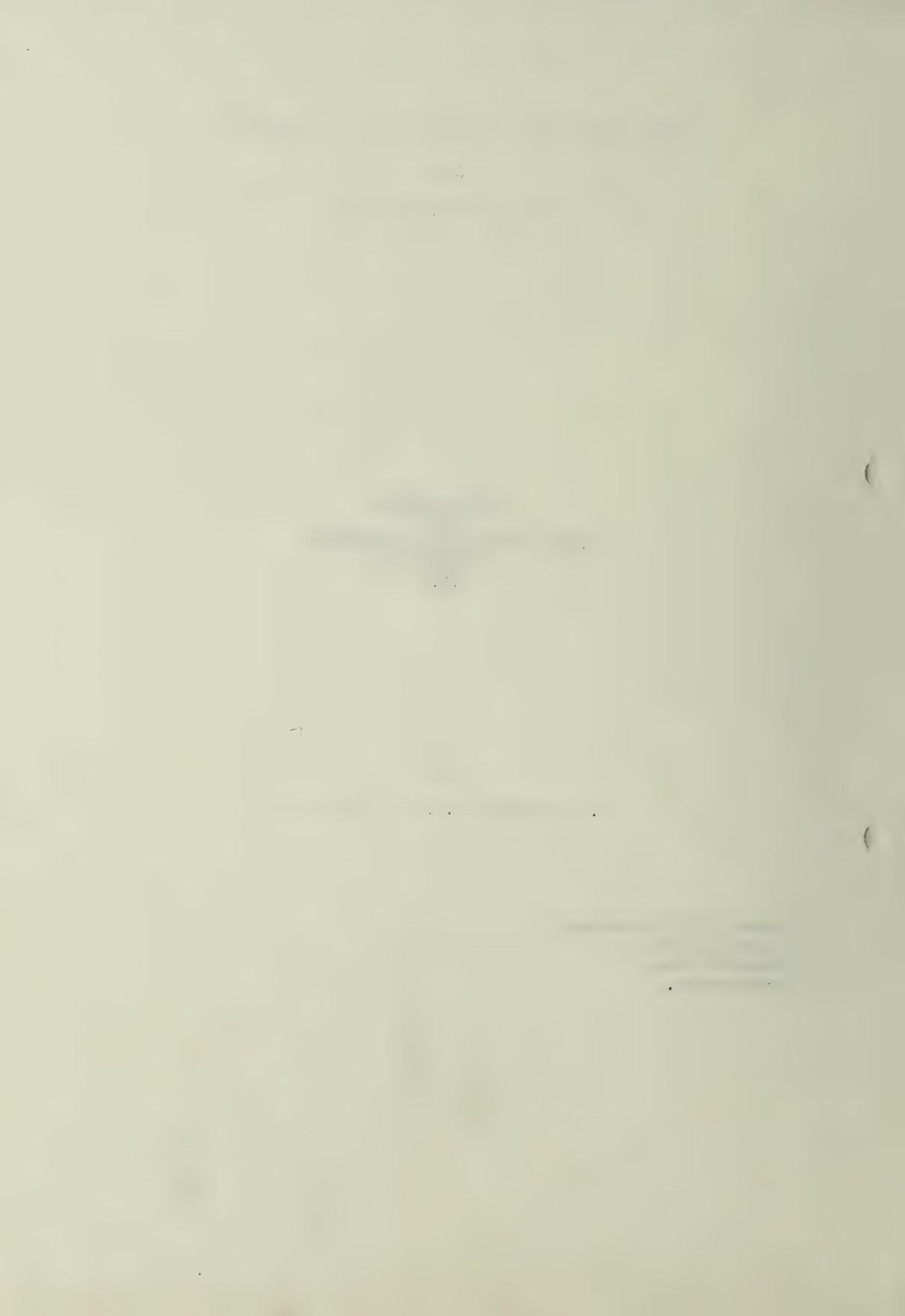


THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF  
FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR  
1973

BY  
J. F. ELLISON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Pontefract Road,  
Featherstone.



URBAN DISTRICT OF FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

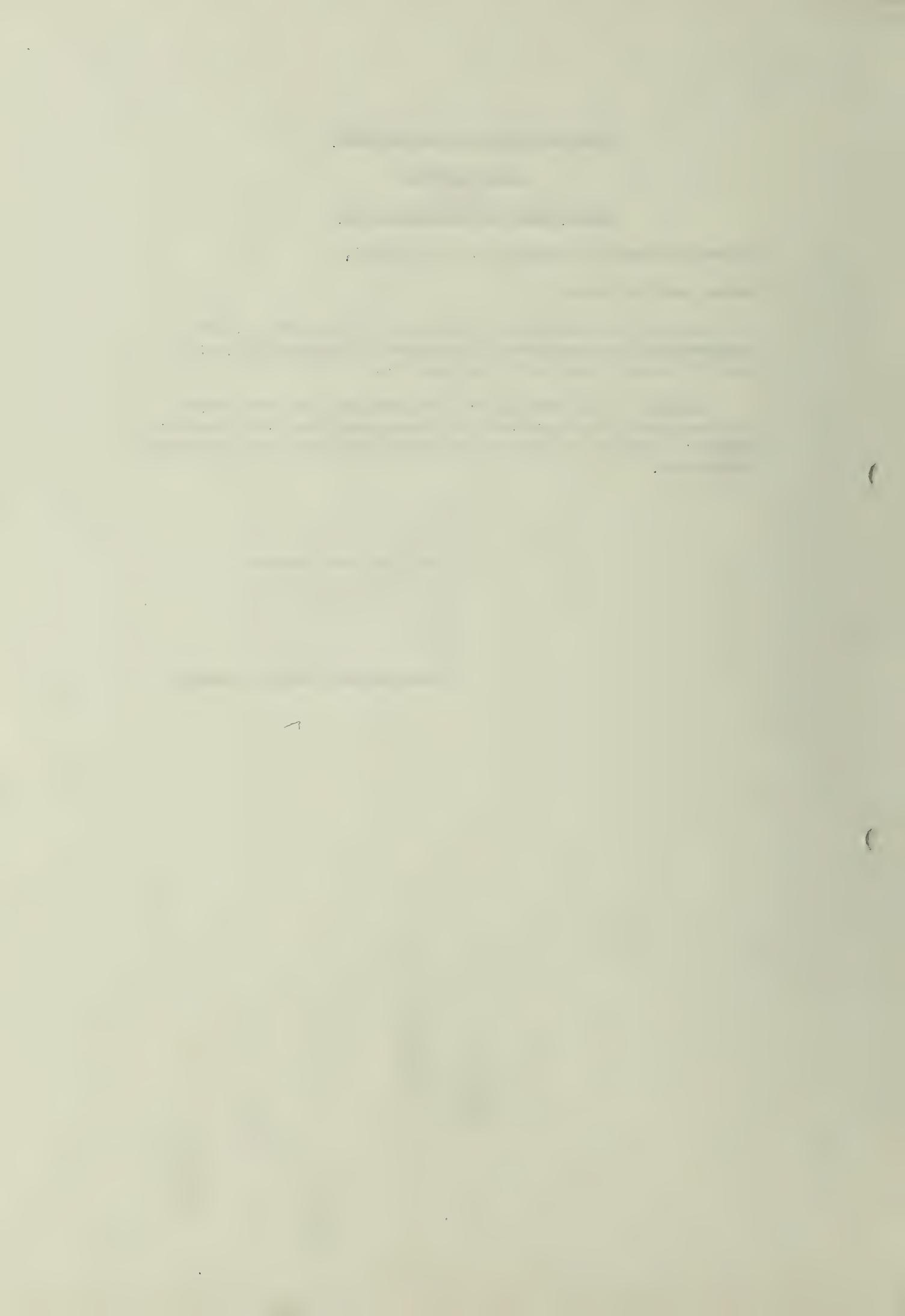
Contrary to the belief I expressed in the 1972 report instructions were received at the end of February, 1974 that the 1973 report would still be required.

Because of the very short time available and the amount of time spent in connection with re-organisation, the report is simply an updating of figures under the various headings, where applicable.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Chief Public Health Inspector



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

### WATER SUPPLY

All dwellings in the district are connected to the mains water supply which is obtained from the Wakefield and District Water Board. In general, complaints are made direct to the responsible Officers of the Board so that this Department's knowledge of alleged inadequacy is usually limited to those cases where private service pipes are at fault.

Weekly chemical and bacteriological samples are taken by the Board's Chemist, of the raw water and of water entering the supply after final treatment. Immediate check samples are taken of any proving unsatisfactory, the chlorine dosage is increased and the matter fully investigated. Any new mains are cleared by the Chemist before being brought into use.

As previously reported, the water at source is more acid than your original supply and to obtain a stable p.H. value, the final level is maintained at 9.

The fluoride content continued to be negligible, never exceeding 0.1 p.p.m.

### SWIMMING BATHS

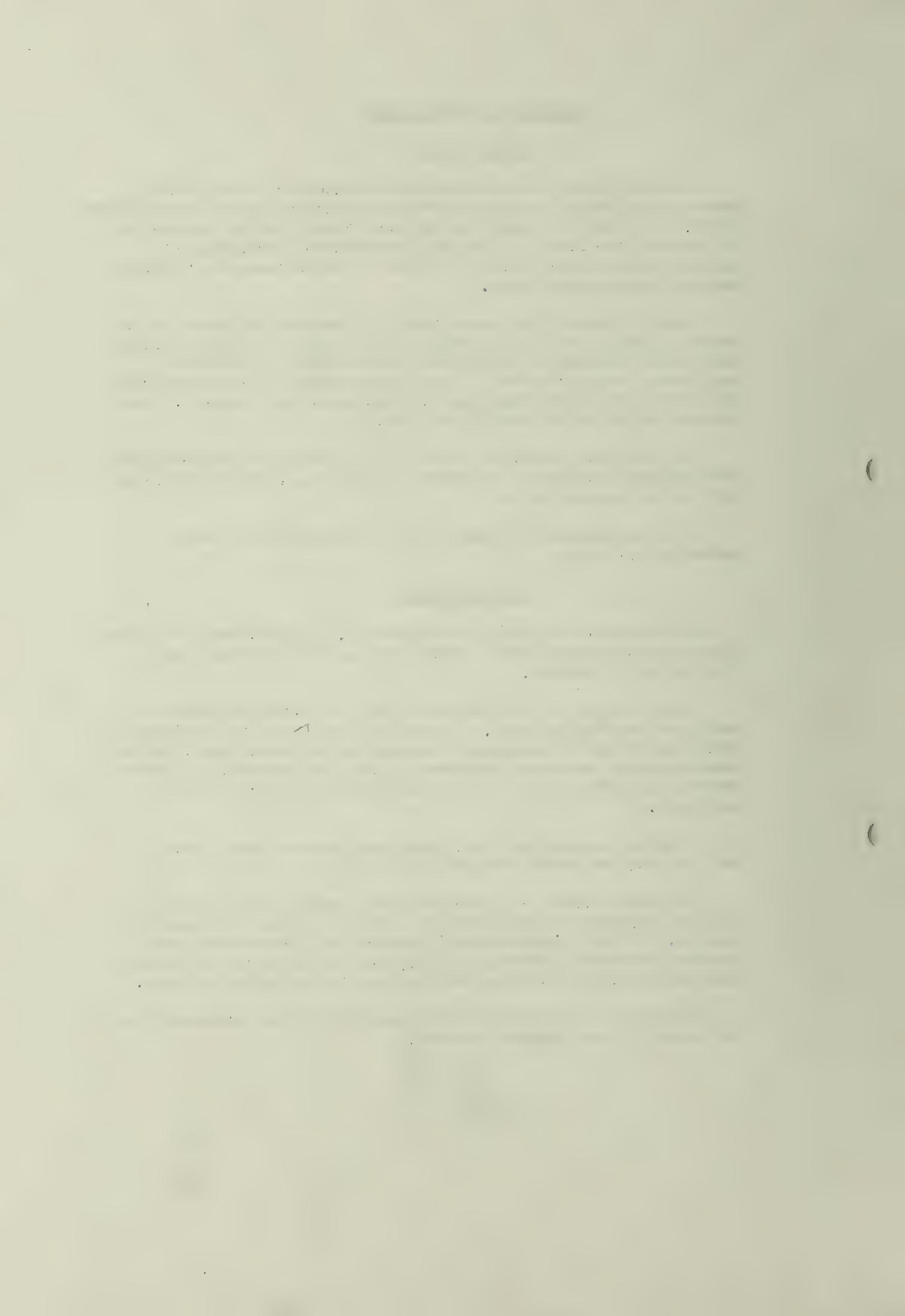
The swimming bath at St. Wilfrid's R.C. High School is in use throughout the school year, whilst the Lister Baths were open from March to November.

There is one pool at the school and two, one large and one small, at the Lister Baths. The water is drawn initially from the public mains and is maintained in satisfactory condition in both cases by fully automatic treatment plant, the water at the Lister Baths being changed every three hours and at the school every six hours.

Chlorine content and p.H. value are checked three times daily by the respective responsible officers.

The total number of bacteriological samples taken was 220 of which 215 were entirely satisfactory with completely negative results. Of the 5 "sub-standard" samples only three contained coliform bacteria, (amounting to 4), and the plate count in each case was 110 check chlorine samples were taken during the year.

Once again, these results indicate a very high standard, to the credit of both superintendents.



### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AND DRAINAGE

By the end of the year there were 5142 houses with water closets, and two without, one having a pail closet and the other an earth closet. Neither can be connected to a sewer, and negotiations are in hand for the closing of the house with the earth closet.

All preparatory works were completed in connection with the new sewerage system, including the acceptance of sewage from Sharlston at South Featherstone sewage works to the stage of acceptance of tender only for further delays encountered by the cut back in expenditure ordered by the Government of the day. This is deplored in view of its effect on the number of houses permitted to be built until the improvement works are completed.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

No infectious disease cases were investigated during 1973.

### INSECT INFESTATIONS

Normal routine treatments were carried out against a variety of insects.

After a clear period of some 3 - 4 years it was again necessary to employ a commercial firm to carry out regular treatments against cockroaches in the under floor spaces of bungalows in Wentworth Road. The district heating system gives ideal breeding conditions all year round and it could well be that the problem may arise from time to time over the years to come.

Only very minor treatments against strawberry seed beetles were necessary in the Huntwick Crescent Area. Their numbers have obviously been greatly reduced and as again the winter had been fairly mild, one can assume that previous treatments had been reasonably successful.

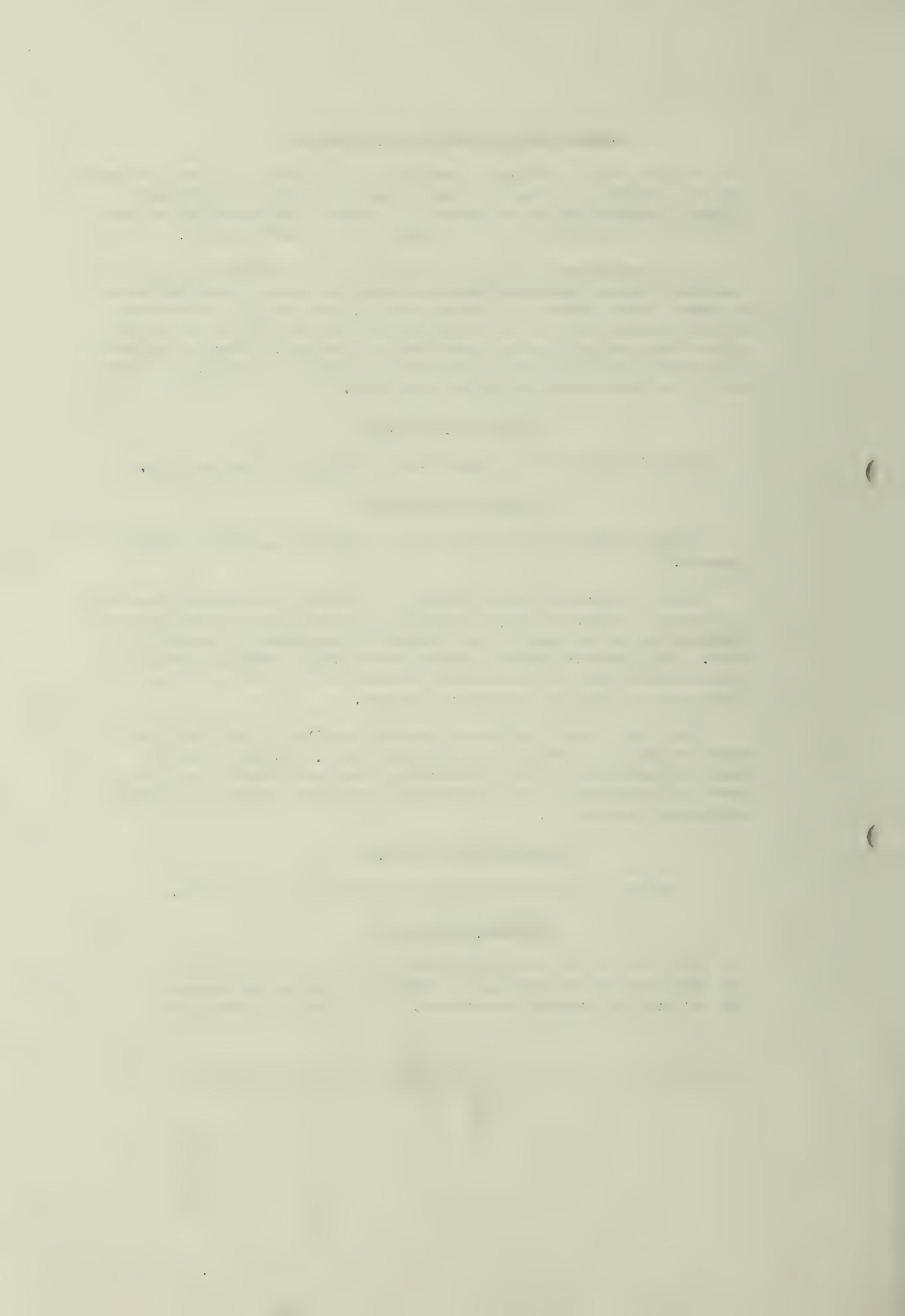
### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses within the district.

### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The land on which was stationed the caravan mentioned in the two previous reports was the subject of an appeal against the refusal of planning permission. The appeal was dismissed and the caravan removed.

The use of sites by itinerants occurred occasionally. In the main they were persuaded to move without any great difficulty.



### RODENT CONTROL

It was not necessary to treat the sewers in 1973.

The refuse tip and sewage works receive regular attention and all complaints are promptly investigated.

No serious problems arose, although the number of complaints and treatments again increased slightly.

The table below sets out the incidence of infestations and control measures taken for the 12 months 1st January, to 31st December, 1973.

### PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

1. Number of properties in district
2. a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.
  - b. Number infested by (I) Rats  
(II) Mice
3. a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.
  - b. Number infested (I) Rats  
(II) Mice

<u>TYPE OF PROPERTY</u>	
<u>NON-AGRICULTURAL</u>	<u>AGRICULTURAL</u>
5981	39
2105	1
745 1360	1 -
35	-
18 17	1 -

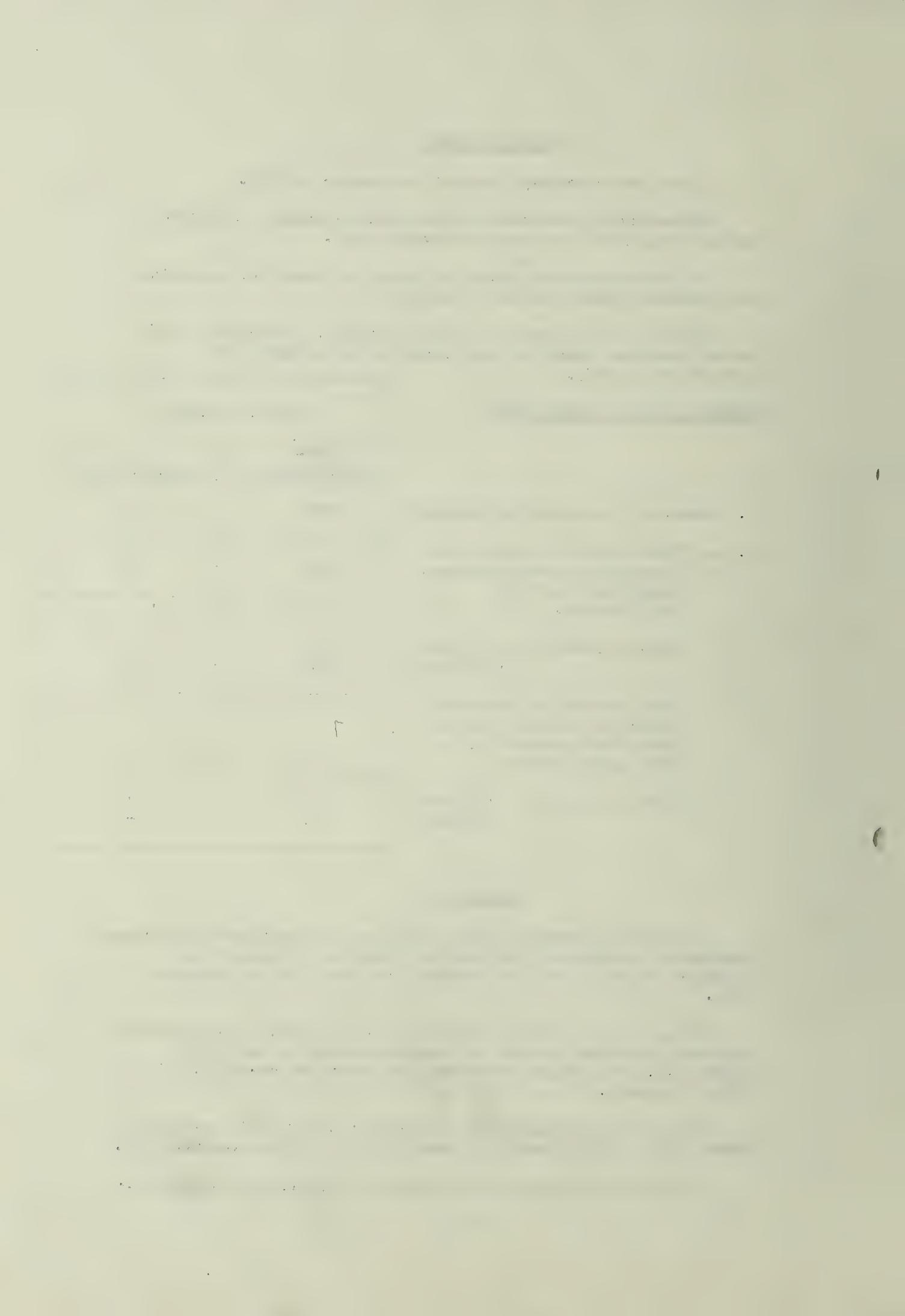
### HOUSING

At the 31st December, 1973 there were 582 applicants for houses (excluding "outsiders") and 268 for bungalows, representing increases of 66 on the 1972 housing list and 5 on the bungalow list.

During the year the 25 bungalows on Green Lane were completed and work progressed on the 151 houses included in the "1914 Scheme G.I.A." 62 houses here were completed and re-occupied by the end of the year.

In all 119 new tenancies were created during 1973, excluding those where a simple change of name in the rent book was effected.

A copy of the housing statistics for 1973 follows overleaf :-



1. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

<u>In Clearance Areas</u>	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
1. Unfit for human habitation	26	65	19
2. Included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-
3. On land acquired under Sec. 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>			
4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	28	49	13
5. Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
6. Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts.	-	-	-
7. Houses included in Unfitness Orders. Dwellings previously reported closed.	-	-	-

2. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

	Number	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
8. Under Section 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957 and Sec. 26 Housing Act, 1961	Nil	Nil	Nil
9. Under Sections 17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
10. Parts of building closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

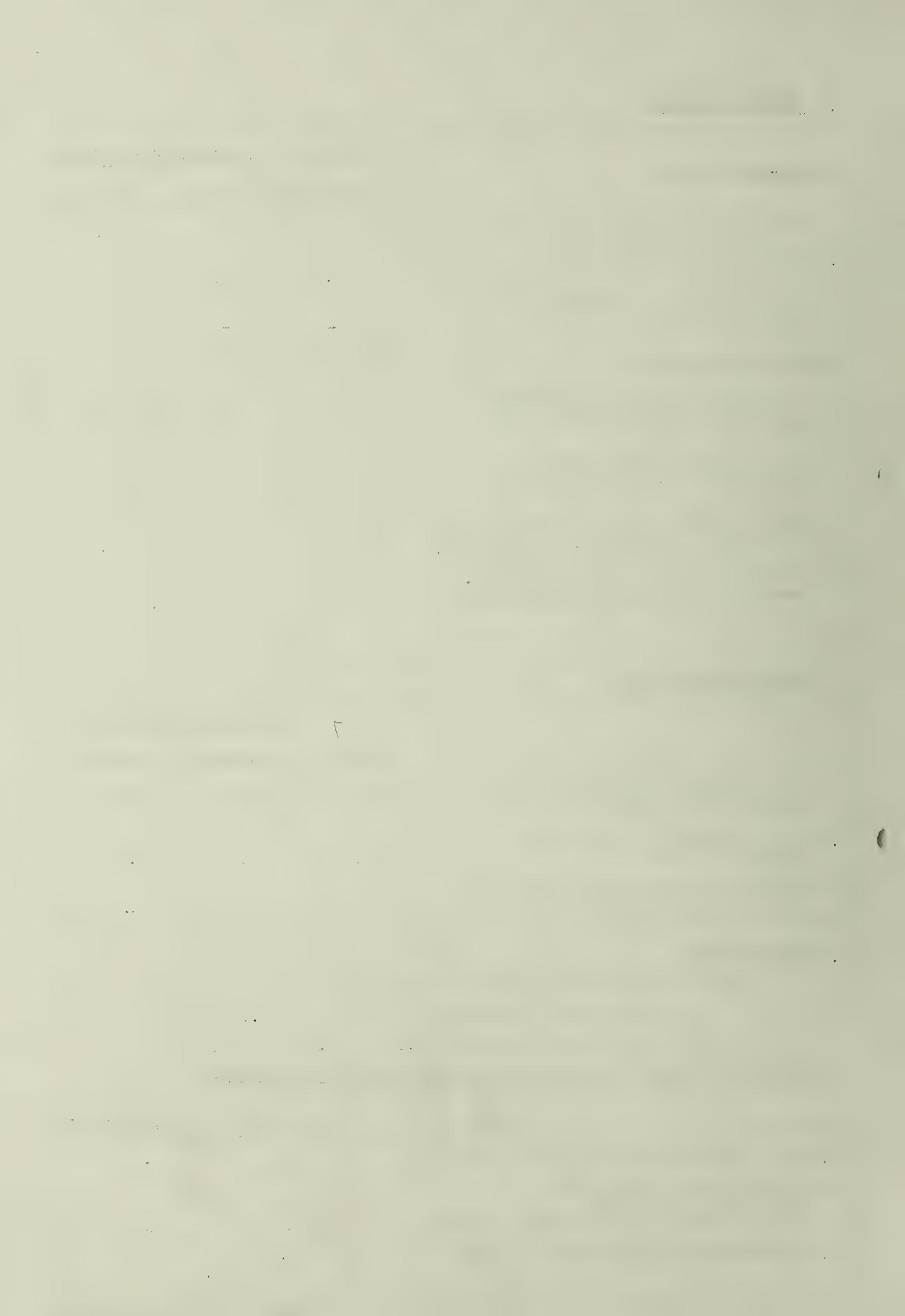
3. NEW DWELLINGS

Number of new dwellings completed during the year :-

- (a) By the Local Authority ..... 25
- (b) By Private Enterprise ..... 52

4. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	By Owner	By Local Authority
11. After informal action by Local Authority	18	-
12. After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	40	-
(b) Section 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	-	-
13. Under Section 24/27 Housing Act 1957	-	-



5 UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of Separate dwellings contained in Column (1) (2)
Position at end of year		
(14) Retained for temporary accommodation		
(a) Under Section 48	-	-
(b) Under Section 17 (2)	-	-
(c) Under Section 46	-	-
(15) Licensed for temporary accommodation Under Section 34 or 53	-	-

6 PURCHASES OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of Occupants of houses in Col. (1) (2)
(16) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year.	Nil	Nil

7 NO. OF FAMILIES REHOUSED DURING THE YEAR INTO COUNCIL OWNED DWELLINGS

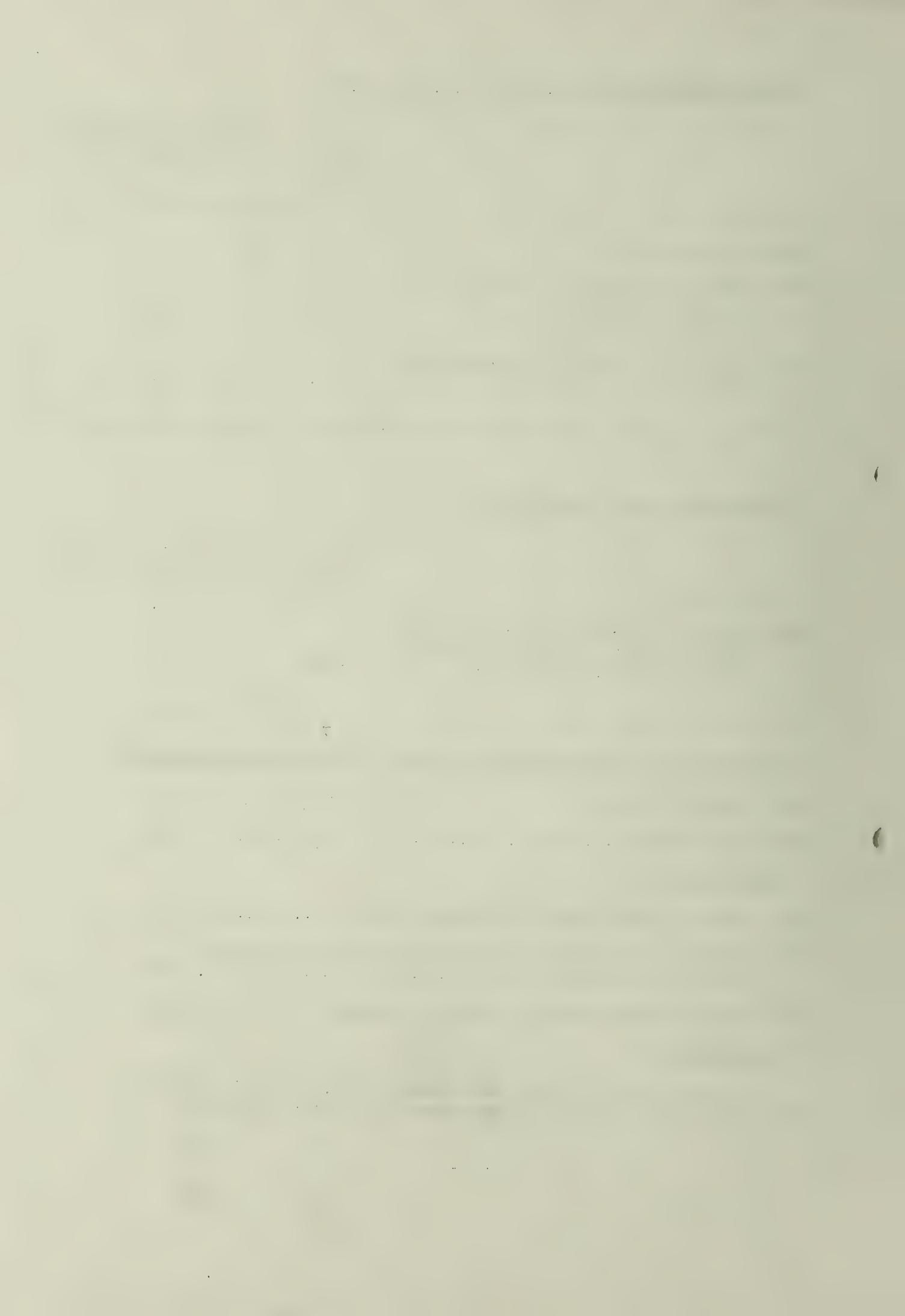
(a) Clearance areas, etc ..... 34  
 (b) Over Crowding ..... Nil

8 RENT ACT, 1957

(a) Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted ..... None  
 (b) Number of undertakings to execute repairs given by owners to the Local Authority ..... None  
 (c) Number of Certificates of Disrepair cancelled ..... None

9 OVERCROWDING

Although 6 large families were rehoused, these are all included in the slum clearance figures, being rehoused from unfit dwellings.

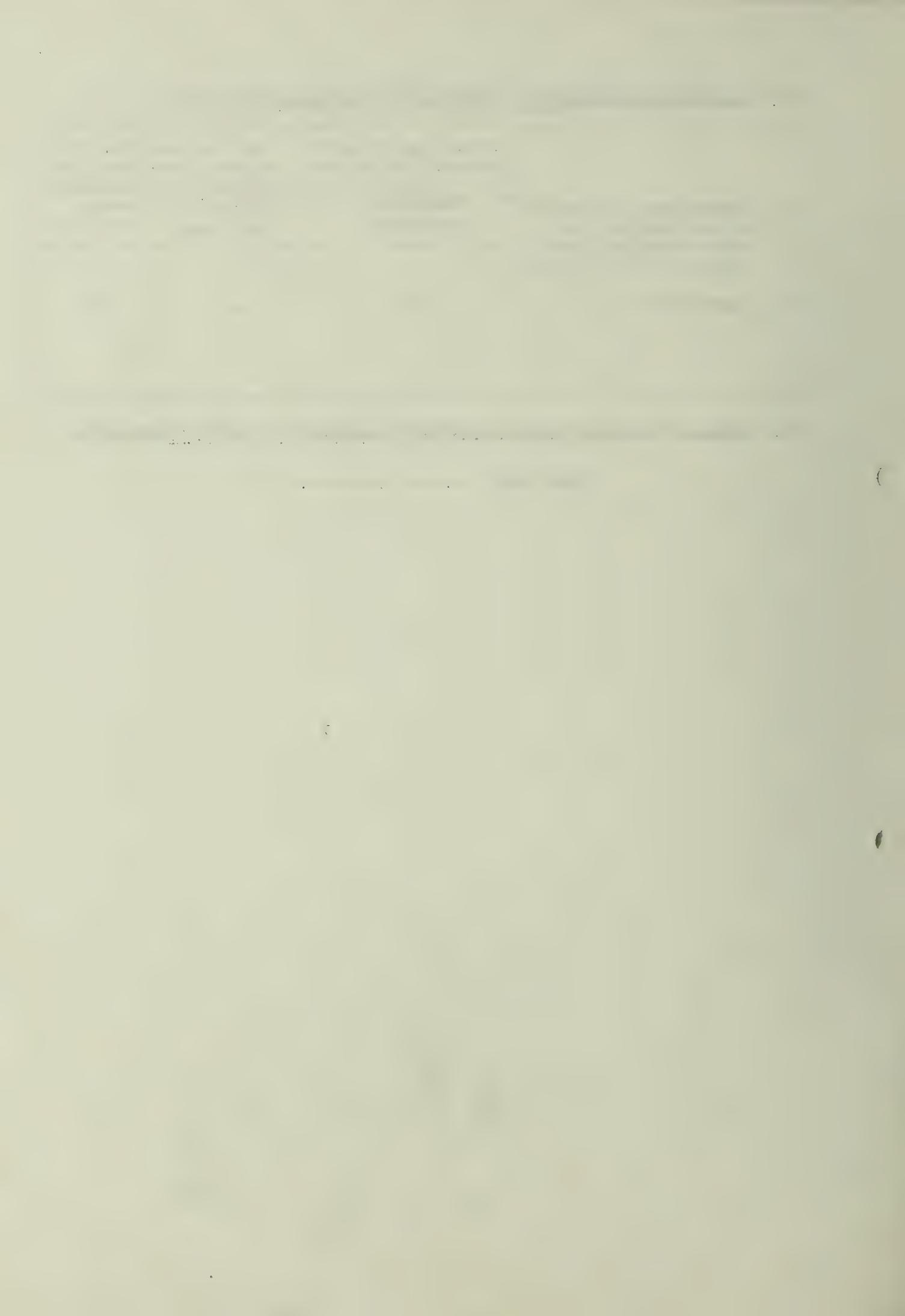


10. GRANTS FOR CONVERSION OR IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

	Formal Applications received during the year	Applications Approved during the year	No. of dwellings completed during the year.
(a) Conversions (the number of dwellings is the number resulting from completion of the work)	-	-	-
(b) Improvements	56	46	46

11. DETAILS OF ADVANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING OR CONSTRUCTING HOUSES

Number made ..... 50



FOOD INSPECTION  
SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are no slaughterhouses in the district. Meat inspection is therefore normally restricted to that found in butchers shops.

FOOD HAWKERS

Six registered mobile shops operate throughout the district.

FOOD PREMISES

Number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :-

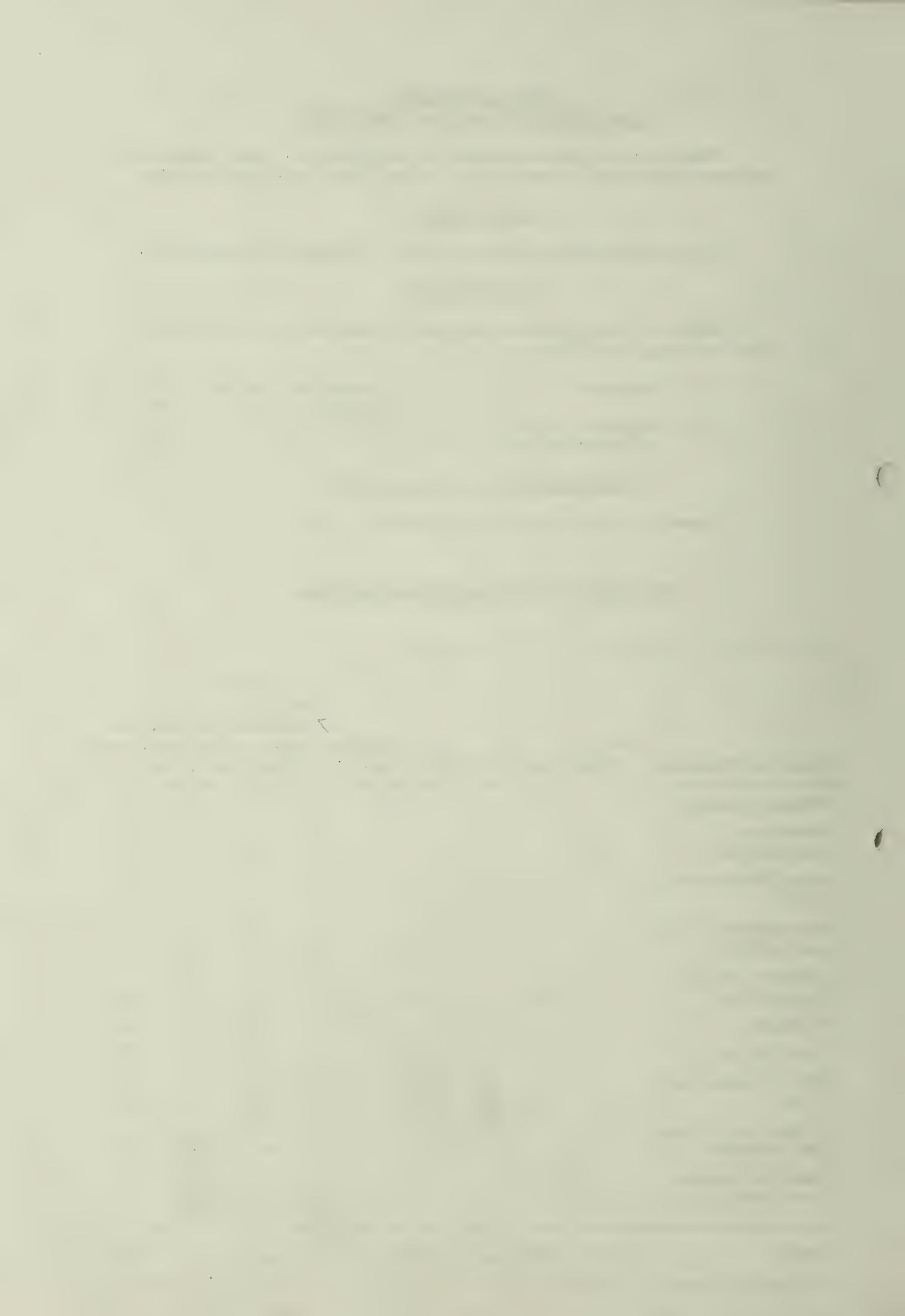
(1) Ice-cream	-	Manufacture and sale	1
		Retailers	38
(2) Sausages, Potted or preserved food			7

MILK SUPPLIES - BRUCELLA ABORTUS

Number of samples of raw milk taken Nil

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

Class of Premises	Man of Prep.	Sale	Total	No. Complying with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. complying with Reg. 19
General Grocery		52	52	52	52	52
Bread and Confectionery	5	1	6	6	6	6
Sugar Confectionery		9	9	9	9	9
Greengrocer, fish and poultry	1	8	9	9	9	9
Butcher and meat preparation	7	10	18	18	18	18
Chemists		2	2	2	2	2
Fish Frying	13		13	13	13	13
Public Houses and Clubs		21	21	21	21	21
Cafes, snack bars and canteens	10		10	10	10	10
Beer and mineral water bottling	1		1	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>141</b>

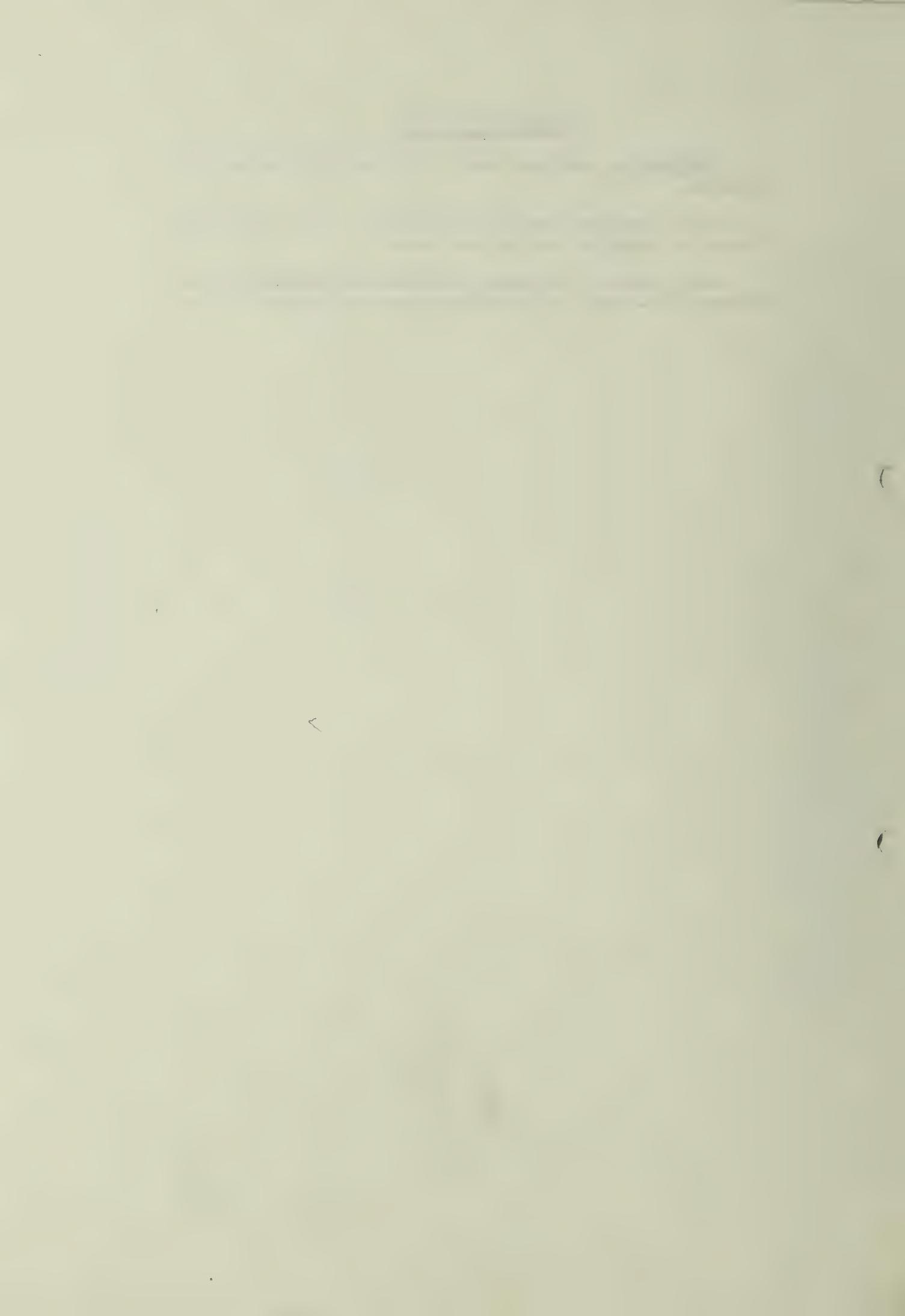


POULTRY INSPECTION

Slaughtering continued during 1973 involving turkeys and chickens.

Visits were again paid on an irregular basis so that true figures of throughput are not available.

Total numbers of carcases inspected were turkeys 6210 and chickens 7965. Again a high standard was maintained.



## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

In 1973 a refuse collection bonus scheme was finally accepted and put into operation. Shop refuse was incorporated in the domestic rounds which were cleared by two fore and after power press equipped vehicles, 1 x 25 cubic yard and the other 1 x 12 cubic yard. Another 12 cubic yard identical vehicle being available as a spare.

In the main, the system operated pretty well, a few complaints being received at times when collections were delayed due to weather conditions and short staffing through sickness.

Tipping continued on the same site which will shortly be full. Agreement was reached in connection with a site within the boundary of the open cast coal workings at Snydale.

### CESSPOOL AND GULLY EMPTYING

The houses served by cesspools are mainly concentrated in two areas, namely Ackton Wood Pastures and part of Ackworth Road, Purston, with a few others in isolated parts of the district.

All the cesspools are emptied regularly by the cesspool/gully machine, which is also used for street gully cleansing on the Council's roads, releasing serious drain or sewer stoppages, and when necessary as a snowplough.

### SMOKE CONTROL

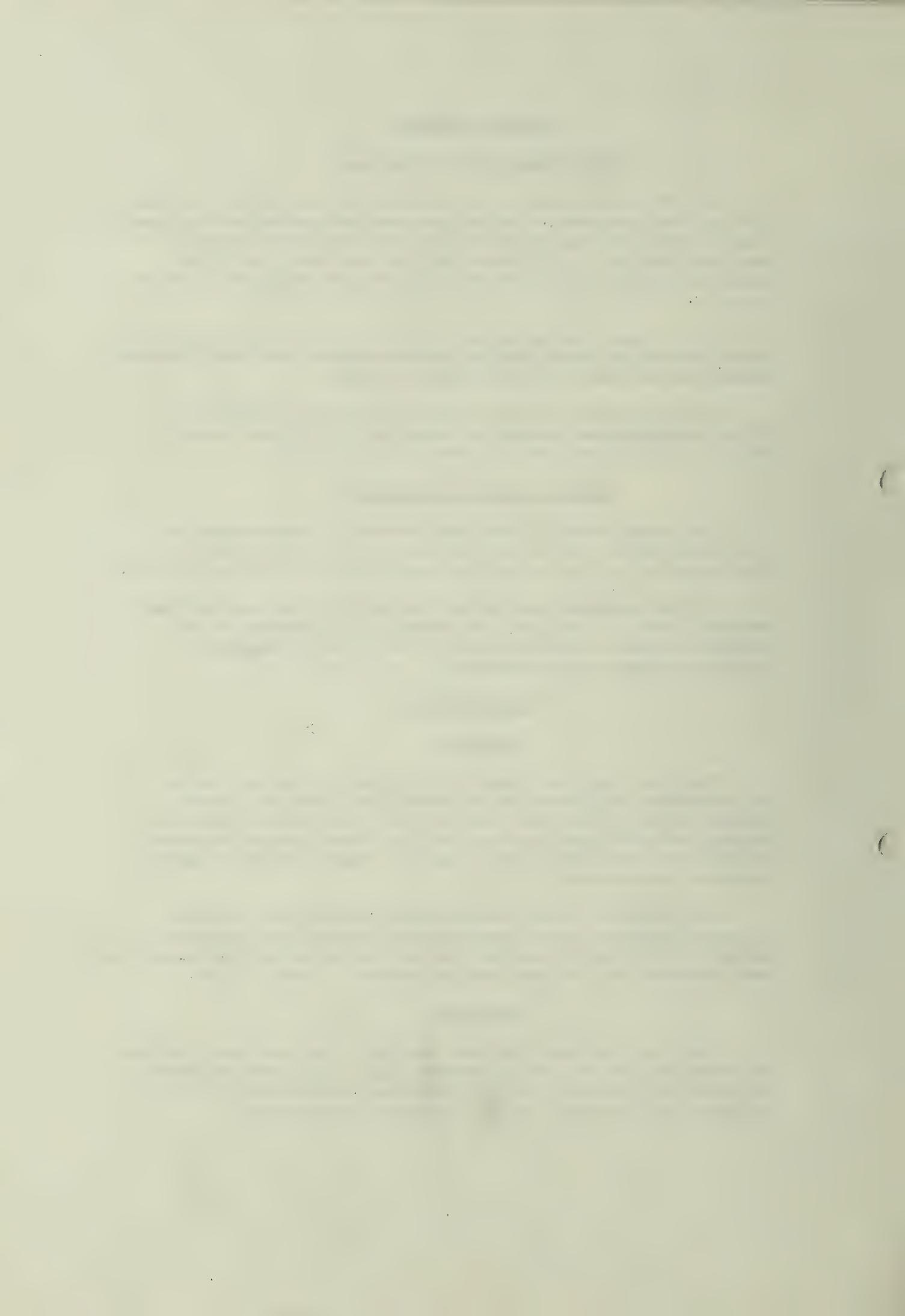
#### DOMESTIC

There was again no change in the Council's declared policy in connection with Smoke Control areas, but plans for future Council building allow for control by design either by district heating or by off peak electric heating. Some unknown reduction in pollution from the domestic field is achieved by the voluntary action of individuals.

The number of Council owned dwellings which are smokeless by design increased by 25 new bungalows in Green Lane which were equipped with electric warm air systems and 62 on the 1914 G.I.A. which were connected to the group heating system. A total of 210.

#### INDUSTRIAL

There were no major problems arising in the industrial sector. On occasions the scrap cable recovery plant again produced smoke, to which the operators attention was drawn. This plant is of course under the control of H. M. Alkali Inspectorate.

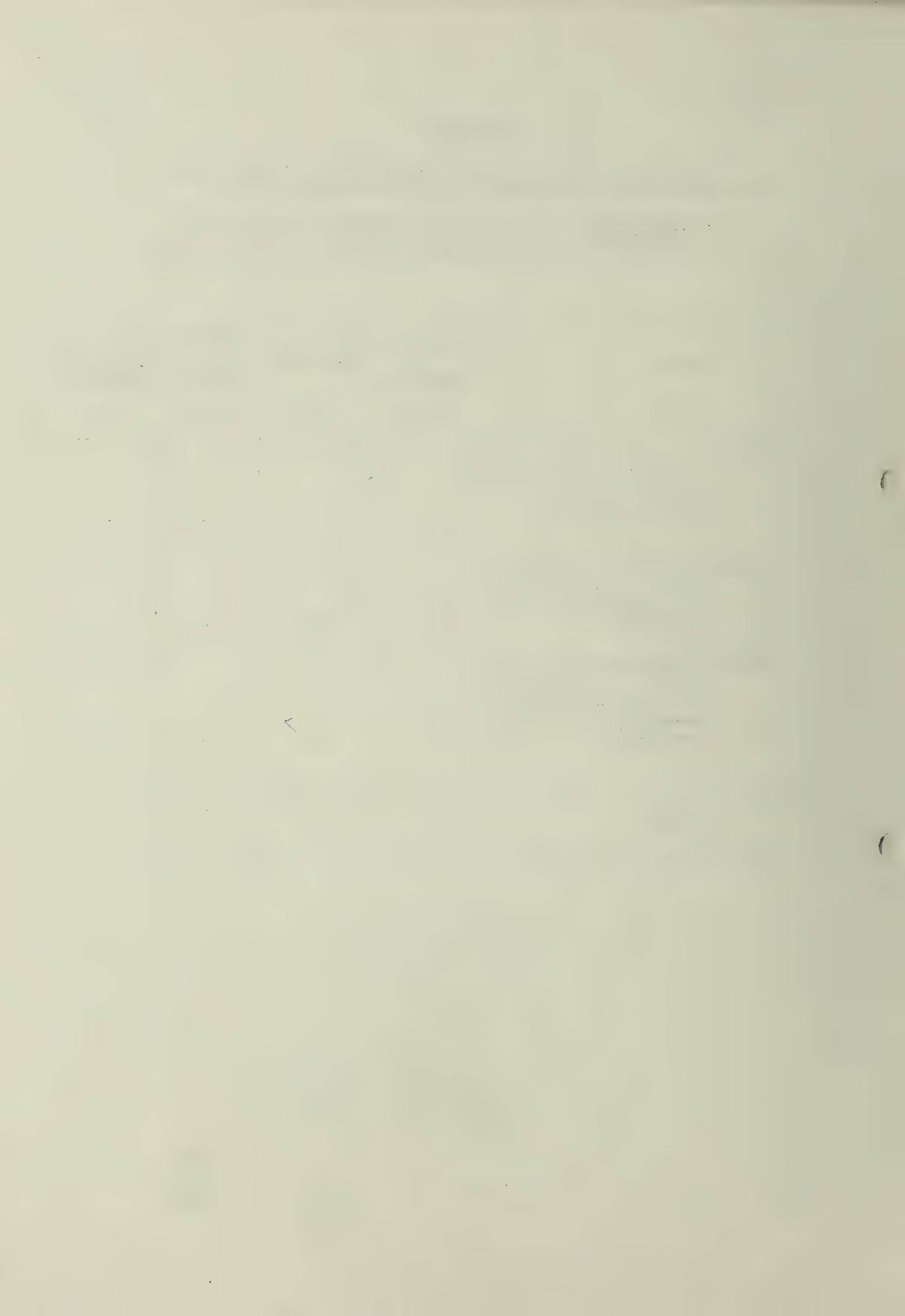


FACTORIES

I give below the particulars required by the Department of Employment under the Factories Act, 1961 Section 153 (1).

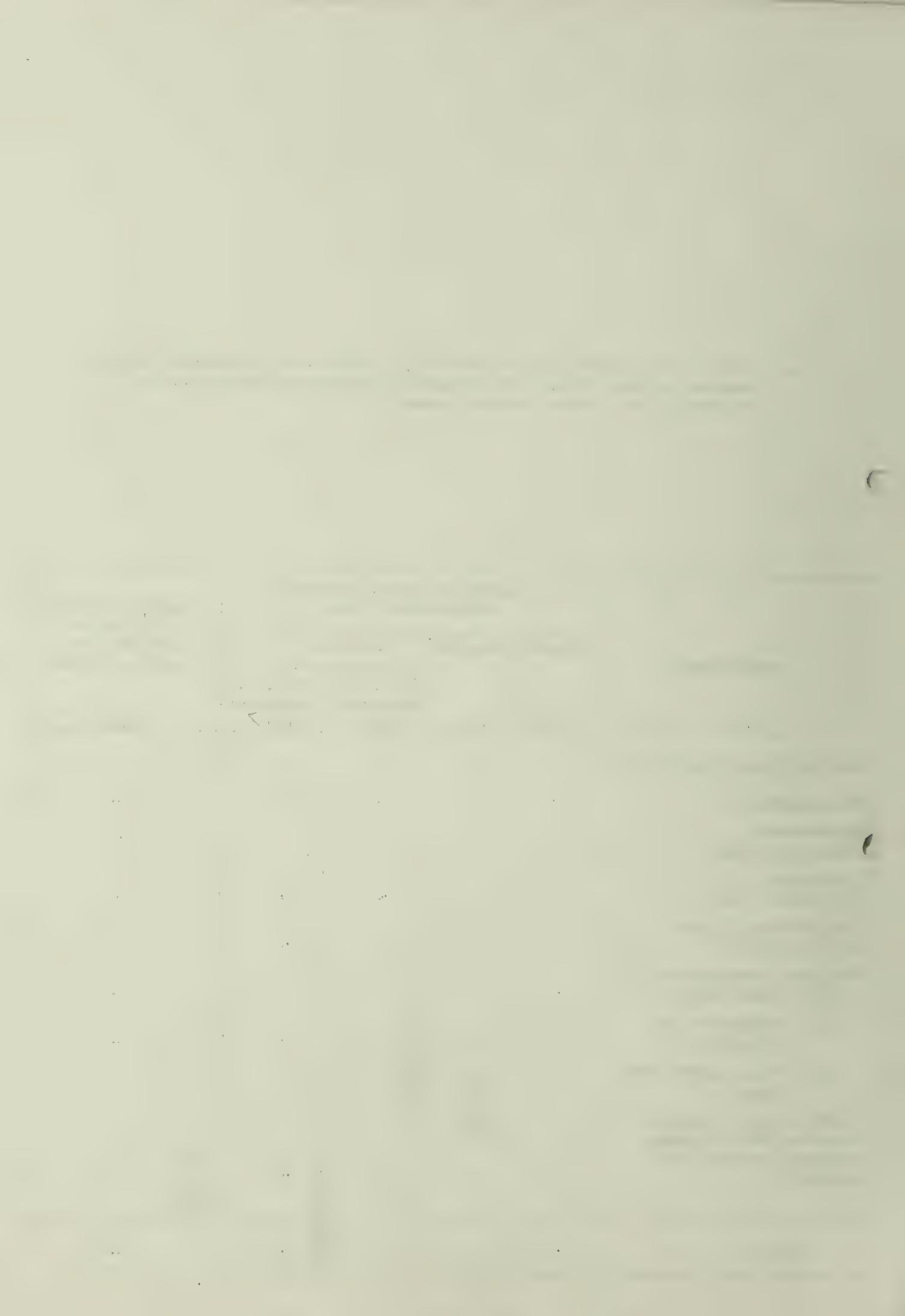
1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	38	38	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	14	20	-	-
Total	54	58	-	-



2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found - (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

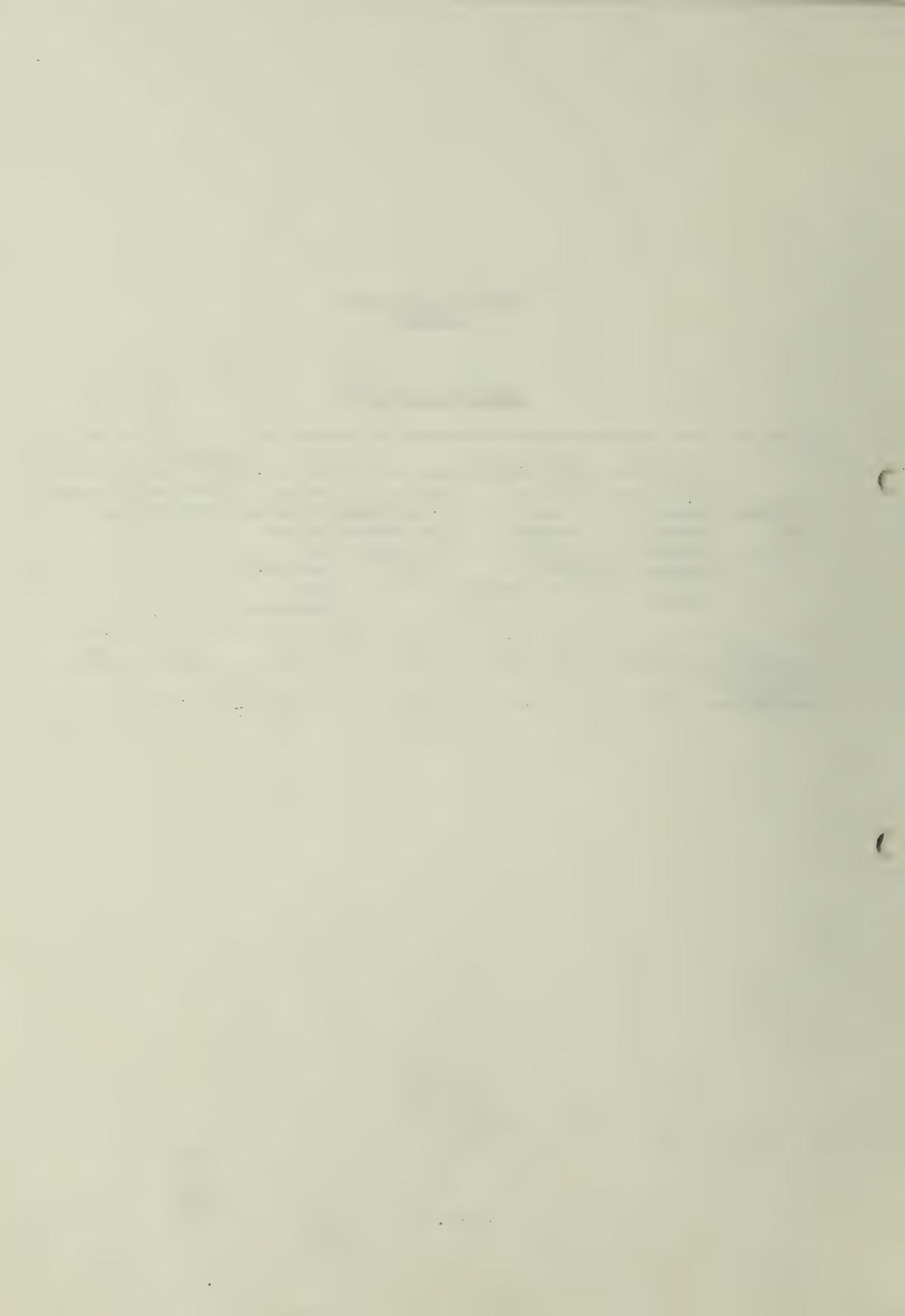
Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred			
			To H. M. Inspector (4)	By H. M. Inspector (5)		
Want of Cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable Temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate Ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)						
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	



PART VIII OF THE ACT  
OUTWORK

(SECTIONS 133 & 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices Served	Prosecu- tions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
ALL LIST- ED WORK	-	-	-	-	-	-



OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Prescribed particulars to be included in the annual report to the Secretary of State under section 60.

TABLE A - REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Period covered 1st January - 31st December, 1973

Class of Premises (1)	Number of premises registered during the year. (2)	Total number of registered premises at end of year (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year. (4)
Offices	Nil	8	5
Retail shops	2	34	14
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	Nil	7	7
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Total	2	49	26

TABLE B - NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

112

Class of Workpeople (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	18
Retail shops	101
Wholesale department, warehouses	-
Catering establishments open to Public	17
Canteens	2
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	138
Total Males	40
Total Females	98

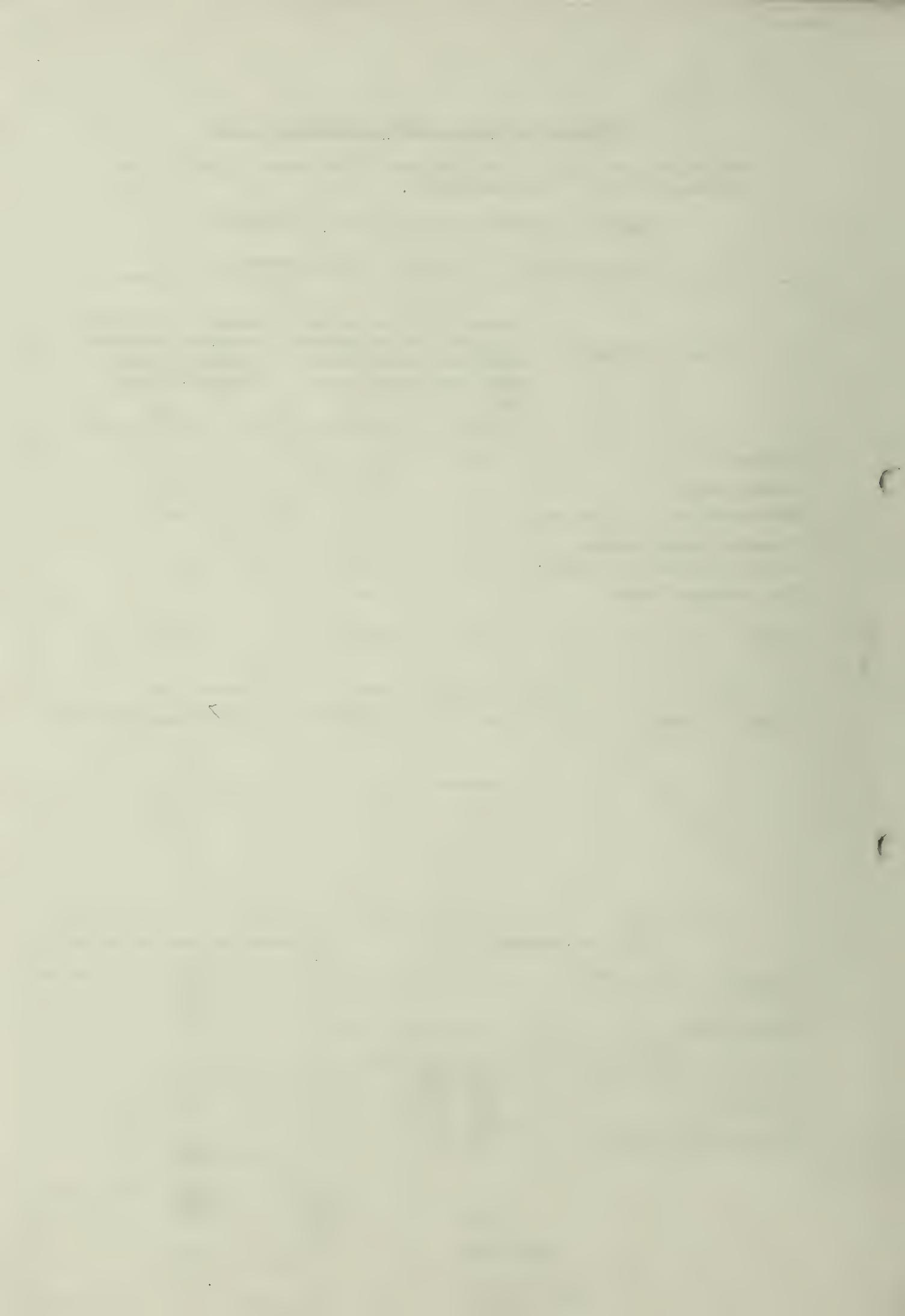






TABLE D - EXEMPTIONS

M/c Line No.	Class of Premises	During the year						Appeals to Court against refusal to grant or extend an exemption or against the withdrawal of an exemption No. Made (9)
		No. of exemptions current at end of year	Newly granted	expired or withdrawn	refused	opposed by employees	No. Made (8)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Part IV - Washing Facilities (Scc. 10 (1))								
31	Offices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Retail Shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Catering establishments open to public, canteens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	Fuel storage depots	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE E - Prosecutions  
Prosecutions instituted of which the hearing was completed in the year.

Section of Act or title of Regulation or order	No. of Persons or companies prosecuted	No. of informations laid	No. of Informations leading to a conviction
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-

No. of persons or companies prosecuted  
No. of complaints (or summary applications)  
Laid under section 22  
No. of interim orders granted

NONE  
NONE  
NONE

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act .....	No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act .....	No. Allowed (9)
2	-	-

TABLE F - Inspectors

